

The Christ Church History and Archives committee has been formed to collect, document and preserve the material and social history of the Parish and to encourage participation and involvement of all parishioners.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF PARISH OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Since Christ Church was established in 1912, parishioners have given to the wider community, through their involvement in, and leadership of more than one hundred secular and Anglican organizations. Previously known as "Called to Care," the Committee's name was later changed to the Outreach Committee, which is currently chaired by Jennifer Eaton.

There was Radio Outreach in the '30's by Rectors Luxton and Kemp. Throughout the 50's and 60's, Ruth Gorman volunteered for the Alberta Indian Association, and secured the vote for Canada's indigenous peoples. When the "Residential Schools" story broke in the 2000's, relationships were established with the Tsuu T'ina Nation through St. Barnabas.

In the 60's and 70's, Art Smith, set up the Calgary Homeless Foundation to champion Calgary's homeless. "Inn from the Cold" provided overnight accommodation and meals in our basement, for the homeless, from 1996-2006. One day a year from 1996 to 2016 Christ Church also staffed "Feed the Hungry," a Catholic project, providing a weekly hot meal to street people. During the 2013 Calgary flood, the Church provided hot meals, and other services, to those displaced, including many parishioners. Today, we continue many years of weekly donations to the "Food Bank " and the "Deacon's Closet," discretely offers emergency supplies to any needy parishioner. Parishioner Susan Mullie chairs the Trinity House Foundation, which develops housing for the over 55s with lower incomes.

Motivated by her deep Christian faith, Lorraine Melchior left her hospital position to become Executive Director of the Calgary Urban Projects Society (CUPS). Primarily a family resource center/medical clinic, since 1989 it has offered services to the impoverished, many of them homeless, many indigenous, in Calgary's downtown. She noticed that its clientele included many children. So, the One World Child Development Centre was established, in nearby space, to offer maternity health, parenting skills and early childhood education. Many parishioners have been Board members or volunteers.

A related initiative at CC has been the "Community Kitchen." The parish also supported two different Syrian refugee families, with rent/groceries, cultural guidance, teaching English and helping with the transfer of University Diplomas. In each of the last two years, the parish has provided 350 pairs new/gently used runners to needy Calgary children.

Three CC sponsored trips to El Salvador in the early 2000's, helped earthquake rebuilding by Habitat for Humanity. Our youth group helped rebuild schools in New Orleans, after the 2005 Hurricane Katrina.

Recently the parish has joined the Calgary Alliance for the Common Good, a multi faith, and multi-issue organization, coming together to act of their values: " strong families, healthy communities and a just world." *These mini stories will appear on a regular basis and parishioners are invited to contact John Mendham (jhmendham@telus.net) or other committee members if they would like to share memories, records or artifacts. Longer articles are available on line.*

Over /...

Parishioners are invited to contact John Mendham (jhmendham@telus.net) or other committee members, if they would like a longer historical essay on this subject, or if they have oral or tangible records they would like to donate.



Photograph of Art Smith



New shoes donated to Glenbrook School



Mural on the CUPS building downtown



Christ Church Community Kitchen

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Rectors and Interim Priests:

Horne 1913 – 1929
Luxton 1930 – 1933
Kemp 1933 – 1944
Crump 1944 – 1960
Dowker 1960 – 1966

Tatchell 1966 – 1980
Curtis 1980 – 1983
O'Driscoll 1984 – 1992
Boyles 1992 – 1993
Pike 1993 – 2003

Tucker 2005 – 2015
Belcher 2015 – 2016
Pickett 2016 – Present